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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CORDIS CORPORATION** [US/US]; 14201 NW 60th Avenue, Miami Lakes, FL 33014 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SULLIVAN, Jason, R.** [US/US]; 8 Haytown Road, Lebanon, NJ 08833 (US). **WONG, Wal, Chung, Jonathan** [CA/US]; 235 Main Street Apt. 3D, Sommerville, NJ 08875 (US).
- (74) Agent: **MONTGOMERY, Michael, W.**; 14201 N.W. 60th Avenue, Miami Lakes, FL 33014 (US).

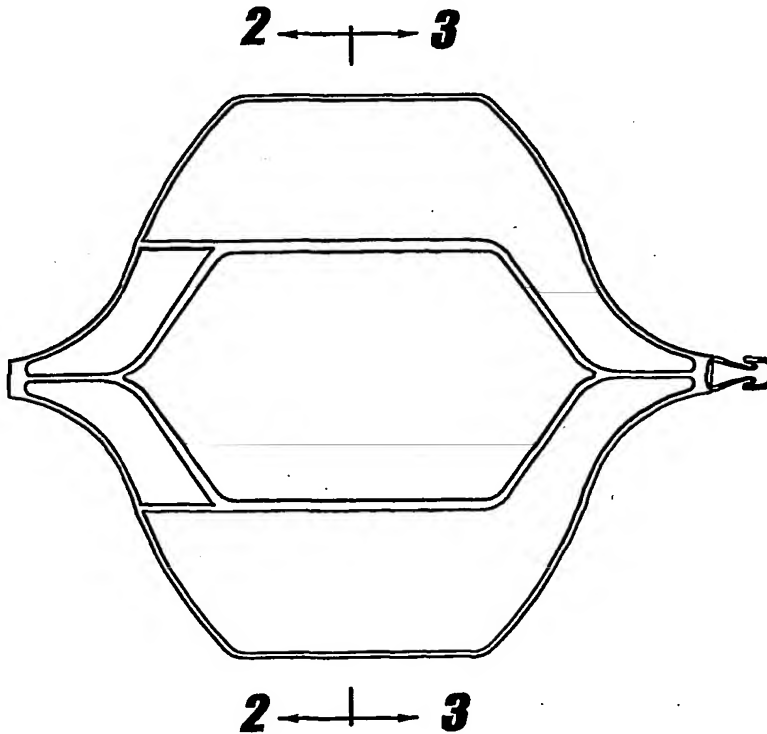
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(54) Title: **ASYMMETRICAL MEDICAL FILTER**



(57) Abstract: A medical filter has a double-basket design, in which the two filter baskets have balanced filtering efficiencies, so that both filter baskets tend to collect or capture amounts of material that are approximately equivalent. In other words, a second, or "downstream" filter basket may be designed to have a filter efficiency greater than that of a first or "upstream" filter basket. There are a variety of ways in which this tailored filter basket performance can be achieved. Some examples include increasing the number of struts or decreasing the size of the filter cells or other filter elements of the second or "downstream" filter basket. Likewise, a similar result may be reached by decreasing the number of struts or increasing the size of the filter cells or other filter elements of the first or "upstream" filter basket. In some cases, such a filter may be used in a blood vessel, for the purpose of intercepting thrombus. Where the filter is implanted in a blood vessel, it may be retrievable for a longer period of time.

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,364,895 B1 (Greenhalgh) 02 April 2002 (02.04.2002), See entire document.	1,2,4,5,7,8 3,6
Y	US 6,241,746 B1 (Bosma et al.) 05 June 2001 (05.06.2001), See entire document.	1-8
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201		Authorized officer Sarah K. Webb <i>Sharon D. Green for</i> Telephone No. (703) 308-0858